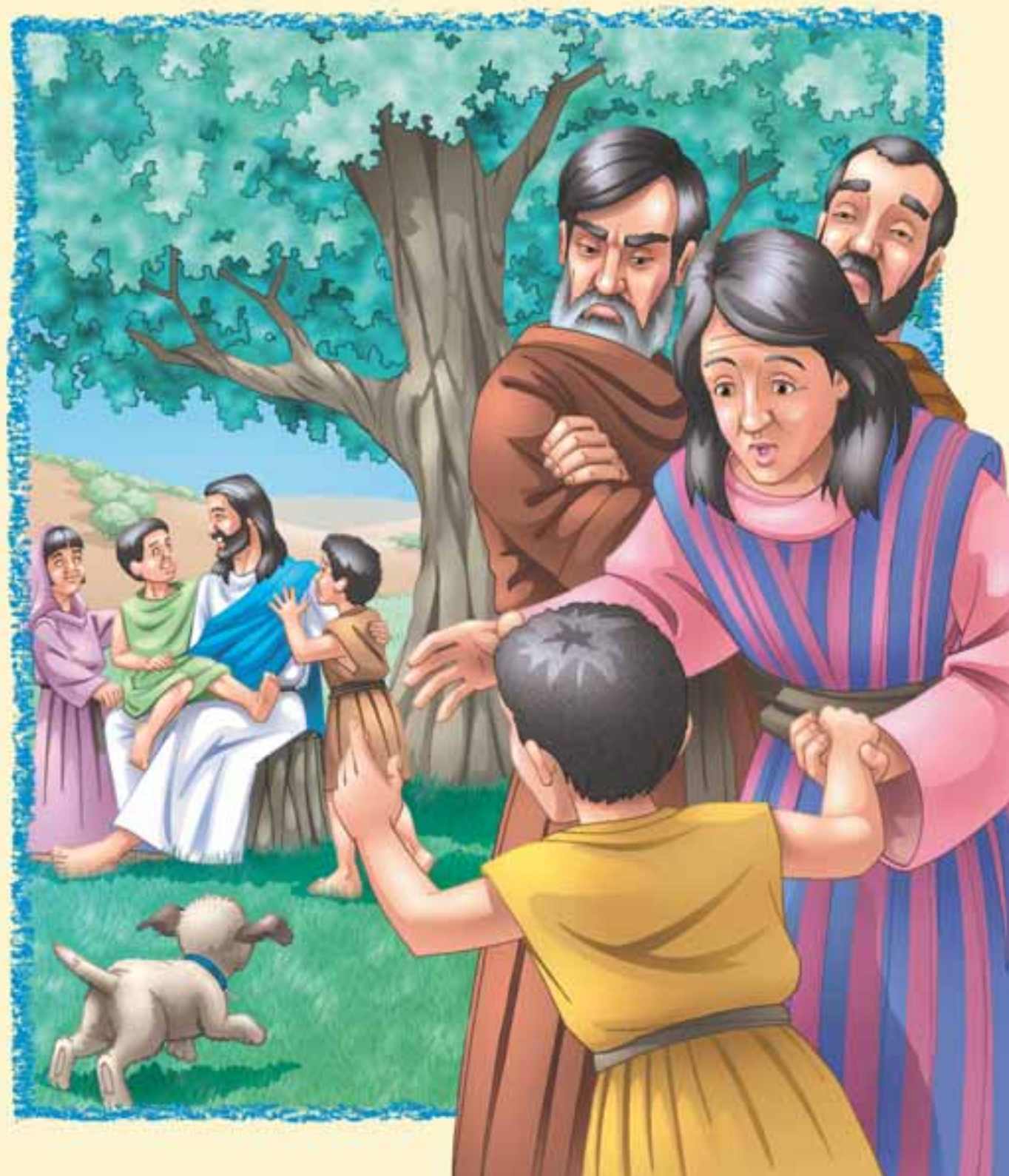


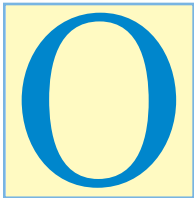


LESSON 5

REFERENCES: LUKE 18:15-17; *THE DESIRE OF AGES*, PP. 511-517.

Let Them Come!

Who is your favorite grown-up besides your parents? Is it your grandma or grandpa? Your Sabbath School teacher? When Jesus was on earth, He was many children's favorite grown-up. Let's see why.



One day a little boy's mother heard that Jesus was in her town.* She didn't know where He was, so

she asked her neighbor, "I heard that Jesus is in town.

Do you know where He is? I want Him to pray for my little boy."

"Jesus is here?" the neighbor asked. "I'll come with you to find Him." The neighbor picked up her little girl. The two mothers walked quickly toward town.

Another mother saw them. "Where are you going?" she asked.

"We're going to find Jesus," the first mother said. "Come with us!"

"I will," said the mother. She called her two children. "Come, children. We're going to see Jesus!"



Memory Verse

"Let the little children come to me."

LUKE 18:16, NIV.

The Message

Jesus loves me!
He wants me in
His family!

As the mothers and their children hurried toward town, they saw more mothers with their children.

"They must know where Jesus is," the first mother said. "Let's follow them." So they did.

Finally they saw Jesus sitting under a tree. He was talking to some grown-ups. Jesus' helpers were standing nearby. They frowned at all the mothers and children.

One of the mothers walked right up to the frowning men and said, "Excuse me. We would like to have Jesus pray for our children."

One of the men frowned harder. "Jesus is busy," he answered. "Come back later."

The mothers and the children were sad. They started to go back home. But then Jesus stood up and spoke to the frowning man. "Let the little children come to Me. Don't stop them. They belong in My kingdom. They're part of My family."

Jesus opened His arms, and a little girl ran to Him. He picked her up and hugged her. Soon all the children ran to Him.

What did Jesus do next? He let the children climb onto His lap. He let them touch His hands and His face. He let them gently pull His beard. He let them give Him hugs.

Jesus smiled at the children. He hugged and kissed them back. He played peekaboo with the babies. He held each child in His arms and prayed for each one.

The mothers and the children were so happy that Jesus loved all the children and welcomed them into His family. Jesus loves us! He wants us in His family too!



*See *The Desire of Ages*, p. 511.

Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story together, and use the following motions to review the memory verse.

Let the little children Hold hand out with palm down as if to show how tall a small child is.

come Beckon to come with hand.
to me. Point to self.

Luke 18:16 Palms together, then open.

SUNDAY

Read Luke 18:15-17 together. Ask: Would you have liked to see Jesus too? What do you think it would feel like to sit on Jesus' lap? What do you think He would say to you? Hold your child on your lap as you pray together.

MONDAY

Using a doll, role-play getting ready to meet with Jesus. Help your child wash the doll's face and hands, comb its hair, and dress it in clean clothes.



TUESDAY

Help your child share the name tag made in Sabbath School. If your child didn't make one, cut out a name tag from paper, and write "I'm in Jesus' Family" on it.

Have your child share it with another child and tell them Jesus loves them.

Help your child name and count all the children they know. Ask: Does Jesus love all those children, too?

WEDNESDAY

Set an empty chair nearby while you have worship. Tell your child to pretend that Jesus is sitting on it. Ask: What would you like to say to Jesus? Remind them that prayer is one way we talk to Jesus. Ask: What would you like to tell Jesus? Pray together and thank Jesus for hearing your prayers.



THURSDAY

Have your child sit on your lap as you sing together "Jesus Loves the Little Children" and "Jesus Loves Me." Have your child close their eyes and imagine they are sitting on Jesus' lap.

FRIDAY

Role-play children trying to see Jesus and the disciples keeping them away.

Help your child count the number of people in your family. Ask: How do they show you that they love you? How do you show that you love them? Thank Jesus for your family.